



News, Events and Information

You're Invited! Celebrate over 2000 GreenSpot members

Mayor Michael B. Coleman invites you to celebrate our community's accomplishments through the GreenSpot program. There are now over 2,000 GreenSpot members and the program continues to grow. Join Mayor Coleman, his Green Team and GreenSpot members to celebrate this milestone with an evening of socializing and sharing ideas. The event will be held in conjunction with Cocktails at the Conservatory on THIS Thursday, February 10th from 5:30-10:00 p.m. Admission is \$11 per guest which can be paid at the door. Guests will enjoy beverages and hors d'oeuvres.

Haven't joined GreenSpot yet? It's never too late- visit www.columbusgreenspot.org

GreenSpot expanding to a younger audience

With the help of the Ohio Environmental Education Fund, the GreenSpot program will expand to provide targeted resources to children and teachers. The program will seek to inspire and empower students to live a more sustainable lifestyle through development of a children's book, website, and compiled teacher resources.

Don't let your child miss their opportunity to help inspire the final design of a program mascot. Young artists are [requested](#) to submit an original drawing of a character to represent the GreenSpot program.

All entries are due Friday, February 11, 2011 to the attention of the Mayor's Office of Environmental Stewardship, 90 W. Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215. The winning artist will be notified and will be invited to meet Mayor Coleman at City Hall.

Landscaping overhaul at Dublin Road facility

An essential renovation of underground infrastructure at the Department of Public Utilities Dublin Road Water Treatment Plant meant landscaping would be disturbed and redesign would be necessary. The Department viewed the redesign as an opportunity to feature conservation and stormwater best management practices. New features and benefits include:

- **Native Plants:** Because they have adapted to local soil and climate conditions, native plants can thrive without much attention. Their long roots absorb moisture deep in the soil and, once established, they require very little water. Those long roots also break up clay soil, slowing the flow of stormwater and filtering pollutants that could otherwise enter waterways.

- **Reduced Impervious Surface:** Rainfall and snowmelt carry pollutants from buildings, roads, parking lots and rooftops to our streams and rivers. One way of lessening the impact on our waterways is to reduce the amount of impervious surface. Many alternatives provide a hard surface while allowing water to filter through and reach the underlying soil. The new landscaping includes a stone pathway that allows water to percolate to underground drainage.
- **Green Roof Demonstration:** A green roof is an alternative to traditional asphalt, tile or shingle rooftops. It is engineered to keep the roof water-tight and provide an environment for plants to thrive. The plants act like a sponge, absorbing rain water while slowing it down and releasing cleaner runoff. A small section of roof at the plant is serving as a pilot project to evaluate its performance, longevity and maintenance.
- **LED Lights:** LED stands for light-emitting diode. Each LED is a small light source that becomes illuminated by the movement of electrons through a semiconductor material. The lights do not require heat to generate light and can be a very efficient light source. The technology is changing rapidly and national standards are still being developed. Look for the ENERGY STAR designation to select lights that meet strict efficiency and performance criteria.
- **Benches:** Benches found in the landscaped area contain 84% recycled content. Recycling materials reduces the consumption of raw materials while reducing the amount of waste entering the landfill.

Green Events & Activities

Get involved with sustainability in the City of Columbus and central Ohio by visiting the MORPC Green Community Calendar [online](#).

- **State of the City Address:** February 23rd, 6:00 p.m. at COSI. RSVP to 614-645-RSVP or MayorsRSVP@columbus.gov
- **Valentine's Day Celebration:** Saturday, February 12th, 7:30-10:30 p.m. at [Grange Insurance Audubon Center](#). Drinks, desserts, dancing and romantic tours of the park. \$30 per couple by reservation only. Contact 614-545-5483 or tstrickland@audubon.org
- **Save the Date for Earth Day 2011:** Coordinated by Green Columbus, volunteer work sites will be scheduled for April 16 and 17th and the Earth Day celebration will be held on April 23rd at Franklin Park Conservatory.
- **Save the Date for The SWACO Emerald Awards:** May 17th at The Ohio Union (1739 North High Street). Each year, SWACO honors the best and most innovative local ideas in waste recycling during this premier awards program. Nominations can be made [online](#) and are due by midnight March 18, 2011.

Questions, comments, concerns? Interact with us online by becoming a Fan of Columbus GreenSpot on [Facebook](#)!



Support **Get Green Columbus** by becoming a **GreenSpot** member today!

Mayor's Office of Environmental Stewardship
City of Columbus, Office of Mayor Michael B. Coleman
90 W. Broad Street | Columbus, Ohio 43215 | 614.645.7671
www.columbusgreenspot.org
www.facebook.com/ColumbusGreenSpot
www.getgreencolumbus.org

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